III. Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of DGHS to examine the extent of problem and suggest remedial measures. Committee report has been submitted alongwith its recommendation in July, 2002. A copy of the report of the Committee constituted by the Government of India to examine the issues concerning availability of spurious drugs in the market and measures recommended thereof have been sent to all the State Drugs Controllers for their implementation.

IV. Government of India has set up an expert committee on January 27, 2003 under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashalkar, DG, CSIR, Secretary to Govt. of India to look into the various issues related to Drugs Control Administration including the matter of effectively tackling the problem of spurious drugs.

V Central Government have taken steps to augment the drugs testing facilities of State laboratories. Strengthening information system through computer networking is also under implementation.

(c) and (d) Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and rules thereunder, the responsibility for regulating manufacture and sale of drugs including monitoring their quality is vested with the State Government. Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare had written on Oct. 8, 2002 to Hon'ble Chief Minister of J&K seeking his personal intervention to ensure that adequate measures are taken in his State to vigorously pursue the strategies needed to preclude any possibility of menace of spurious drugs.

Dengue cases in Karnataka

4515. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a number of Dengue cases reported in Bangalore last year;

(b) if so, the details of its incidences in the State of Karnataka during the last three years;

(c) whether the disease which was formerly restricted to urban areas is now being reported in semi-urban and rural parts of the States also, due to change in water storage practices, intermittent water supply and migration;

(d) whether any assistance is being provided under Dengue Control Programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH Al FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b)Yes, Sir. As per repo.. received from the State, there were 248 Dengue cases in the Bangalore during 2002. In the State of Karnataka cases of Dengue fever reported during 2000, 2001 and 2002 were 196,220 and 411 respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Technical support for investigation, prevention and control of Dengue outbreak in different parts of the country is provided to the States through Department of National Anti Malaria Programme (NAMP) and National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD), Delhi. Depertment. of NAMP and NICD provide laboratory diagnostic support for confirmatory etiological diagnosis. They also organize training programmes on prevention and control of Dengue fever for State and district level health functionaries.

The States utilize the commodities supplied under NAMP for containment measures against Dengue, if required.

Improvement of hospitals in Assam

4516. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received from the State of Assam for financial grants for improving the services of the existing Government hospitals during the last three years;

(b) the necessary action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of funds allotted by Government for improvement of hospitals in the State during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF (HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has provided following financial assistance to the Government of Assam under the scheme, 'Assistance for Capacity Building' during the last three years:-

1. Rs. 110.00 lakhs for providing facilities of Hospital Waste Management in Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati, Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh, Silcher Medical College, Silcher and Mohendra Mohan Choudhary Hospital, Guwahati.
2. Rs. 150.00 lakhs for strengthening of diagnostic facilities in Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh.